

# The Free Will of God

## Intro:

our problem is not our sin - it is our sin nature - Jer 13:23

## Problem:

our problem is not our fruit but our root - Matt 7:15-20

we have a free but fallen nature - Gen 5:1-3

what can we do? nothing. Is there no hope - Jn 3:1-8

our free will cannot save us - Jn 1:10-11

but His can no matter who you are - Jn 1:12-13

Genesis 25 is about God's election of Israel, and ultimately about God's election of you  
it will bring forth one of the main threads in all of Scripture- that it is God's uninhibited free will that matters in salvation

## Main Idea:

behold the free will of God

behold the free will of man

behold the sovereign will of God

behold the fallen will of man

## Implication:

behold the force of grace

The free will of God - Eph 1

overcomes the free will of man - Eph 2:1-3 (the diff. between Isaac and Ishmael/Jacob and Esau)

to accomplish the sovereign will of God - Eph 2:4-10

## Application:

God chose Isaac/Jacob before they were born

grace is about God's election, God's choice - Romans 9:1-24

not yours - 1 Cor 1:26-31

## Action:

- believer: boast in Him, we are supposed to be encouraged by election and the gravity of His grace
- unbeliever: can you feel the tug - what brought you here?

Articles for further study:

<https://www.crossway.org/articles/10-things-you-should-know-about-election/>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/the-freedom-and-justice-of-god-in-unconditional-election>

Articles for serious study

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/justin-taylor/free-study-guides-for-understanding-jonathan-edwards-freedom-of-the-will/>

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/tgc-web/static-blogs/justin-taylor/files/2013/07/Fuller-Freedom-of-the-Will-digest.pdf>

# The Free Will of God

## Behold the free will of God

Gen. 25:1 ¶ Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah.  
Gen. 25:2 She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah.  
Gen. 25:3 Jokshan fathered Sheba and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim.  
Gen. 25:4 The sons of Midian were Ephah, Ephher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.  
Gen. 25:5 **Abraham gave all he had to Isaac.**  
Gen. 25:6 But to the sons of his concubines Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still living **he sent them away from his son Isaac**, eastward to the east country.  
Gen. 25:7 ¶ These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, 175 years.  
Gen. 25:8 Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people.  
Gen. 25:9 Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre,  
Gen. 25:10 the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife.  
Gen. 25:11 After the death of Abraham, **God blessed Isaac** his son. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi.  
Gen 17:15-21 (before he was born)  
Rom 8:26-30 (predestined, called, justified, glorified)  
*unconditional election is not a sub doctrine*

## Behold the free will of Man

Gen. 25:12 ¶ These are the generations of **Ishmael**, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's servant, bore to Abraham.  
Gen. 25:13 These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam,  
Gen. 25:14 Mishma, Dumah, Massa,  
Gen. 25:15 Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah.  
Gen. 25:16 These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes.  
Gen. 25:17 (These are the years of the life of Ishmael: 137 years. He breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people.)  
Gen. 25:18 They settled from Havilah to Shur, which is opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria. **He settled over against all his kinsmen.**  
Gen 16:1-16 (God sees - where Isaac settled)  
*election is compatible with free will*  
exodus 4:21; 7:3, 13, 14, 22; 8:19; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:4, 8 (God will)  
vs  
Exodus 8:15, 32; 9:34-35 (mans will)

## Behold the sovereign will of God

Gen. 25:19 ¶ These are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham fathered Isaac,  
Gen. 25:20 and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife.  
Gen. 25:21 And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the LORD granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived.  
Gen. 25:22 The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.  
Gen. 25:23 And the LORD said to her,  
"Two nations are in your womb,  
and two peoples from within you shall be  
divided;  
the one shall be stronger than the other,  
**the older shall serve the younger.**"  
Gen. 25:24 ¶ When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were **twins** in her womb.  
Gen. 25:25 The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau.  
Gen. 25:26 Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.  
Gen. 25:27 ¶ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a **quiet** man, dwelling in tents.  
Gen. 25:28 Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.  
the younger -Deut 7:6-8 (Jacob= the story of election)  
*election of Gen 25 is emphasized from Gen -Rev*

## Behold the fallen will of Man

Gen. 25:29 ¶ Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted.  
Gen. 25:30 And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew (let me eat please some of the red this red), for I am exhausted!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.)  
Gen. 25:31 Jacob said, "**Sell me your birthright now.**"  
Gen. 25:32 Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?"  
Gen. 25:33 Jacob said, "Swear to me now." **So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob.**  
Gen. 25:34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. **Thus Esau despised his birthright.**  
Heb 12:16-17 (Esau chose soup over God)  
1 Cor 2:14 (because he had a fallen will)  
*no hope in the fallen will of man*